



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

February 20, 2004

AMC Soldiers receive bronze star

Maj. Gen. John Doesburg, commanding general of the Research, Development and Engineering Command, presented Maj. Jorge Concepcion, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, and Sgt. 1st Class Edward Morales, Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate, Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, with the bronze star in a ceremony at Fort Belvoir Feb. 12.

These Soldiers worked with numerous Army units in Iraq to determine science and technology issues that would enhance Soldier performance and readiness. These issues were immediately reported to RDECOM's Field Assistance in Science and Technology headquarters so resources could be focused from across RDECOM to solve urgent operational issues. Two of their key projects included extra armor for High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles and countermeasures to Improvised Explosive Devices.

Concepcion said they realized quickly the issue in Iraq was force protection, force protection, force protection.

"If we even had any influence saving Soldiers lives, it was worth being out there," Concepcion said.

Morales reiterated, "It was good to get out there and talk to Soldiers. Those Soldiers are still out there every day doing a very difficult task. Even so, I never saw Soldiers who had a bad attitude. They are still out there doing that job day in and day out."

Headquarters seeks comments on lessons learned program

The AMC lessons learned tool is now available on line for employees and AMC customers to submit comments and observations on AMC operations. The goal is to use these comments to improve the support where deficiencies exist.

The database resides on the AMC SIPRNET web site and contains nearly 400 observations and action plans. It can be searched by subject and keyword and reviewed without a password, in addition to allowing the submission of a comment.

The SIPRNET address is <http://hqamc-web.army.smil.mil/AMCLL/SecurityMsg.aspx>.

SIPRNET access is available from the AMC G-3 web site, <http://www.amc.army.mil/G3/index.htm>, and is limited to the submission of unclassified information. NIPR submissions will be imported into the primary SIPR database.

Please call Charlie Baldwin at (703) 806-9341, DSN 656 with any questions.

U.S. flag insignia to be worn by all Soldiers

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker approved the addition of the reverse-side full-color U.S. flag for utility uniforms for all Soldiers (active duty, Army National Guard, and Army Reserve) on Feb. 11.

This requirement is based on the expeditionary nature of today's Army, and to reduce the impact of sewing and removing the U.S. flag insignia on uniforms.

Soldiers should wait until the insignia is provided to them. The government will pay for the purchase and attachment of the insignia on BDUs and cold weather coats for enlisted Soldiers, while commissioned and warrant officers are responsible for those expenses. The government will also pay for the purchase and attachment of the insignia on Desert BDU, maternity BDU, Aircrew BDU, and Combat Vehicle Crewman Uniforms and jackets for enlisted Soldiers and commissioned and warrant officers.

The mandatory possession date is Oct. 1, 2005, in an effort to provide manufacturers adequate time to produce and distribute the insignia.

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"We aren't there on that goal right now, but we are working to achieve that figure. We are going to take our lessons learned and whittle that number down to where it should be."

Brig. Gen. James Pillsbury, commander of AMC's Aviation and Missile Command, speaking about "resetting" Army helicopters and missiles, with a goal of four months.